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# Allen County HamNews

Fort Wayne Radio Club Fort Wayne DX Association

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

June 2011  
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## GEAR UP FOR THE ARRL JUNE VHF QSO PARTY

### From the ARRL web page

Lots of RF will be generated on 6 meters and up the weekend of June 11-12 during the 2011 ARRL June VHF QSO Party. While many amateurs think of the VHF+ bands as a "local" band for public service, emergency communications or a bit of fun on FM repeaters, weak-signal VHF+ enthusiasts know better. Even with a modest station, it's possible to work hundreds, or even thousands of miles on the VHF bands during a good opening.

ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, is a big VHF enthusiast. "In more than 25 years of Amateur Radio, weak-signal work on 6 and 2 meters remains the most fun and intriguing activity I do," he said. "There is nothing like a good VHF opening. With its fun and interesting propagation characteristics like sporadic-E, tropospheric ducting, aurora and even meteor scatter and moonbounce, VHF offers QSO opportunities that HF can never satisfy."

Kutzko said the contest weekend is a great time to try 6 or 2 meters: "The June VHF QSO Party occurs at the beginning of the summer sporadic-E season, which can produce intense openings on 6 meters,

and in some cases, up to 2 meters. This past weekend saw solid sporadic-E openings on 6 meters from New England to Florida and from Texas to the West Coast. Several stations from the Caribbean were also heard on 6 meters this Memorial Day. With the summer sporadic-E season heating up, the June VHF QSO Party promises to be a great weekend of excitement on the VHF+ bands."

Getting on the VHF bands is easy. While there will be some contest activity on FM simplex (especially near large population centers), most long-distance VHF+ QSOs are conducted on CW or SSB -- that means horizontally polarized antennas. You will also need a radio that can transmit in those modes. Most of the newer HF transceivers have 6 meters built in, and several also come with 2 meters and 70 centimeters.

"A dipole on 6 meters will work quite well during a decent opening," Kutzko said. "They're easy to make and less than 10 feet long. Throw it up in a tree as high as you can and you'll be in business. For 2 meters and 70 cm, a horizontal loop will work nicely for SSB and CW contacts." You can find plans for simple VHF antennas at the Technical Information Service area of

the ARRL website, in the "Antennas" chapter of the ARRL Handbook, or in the "VHF and UHF Antenna Systems" chapter of the ARRL Antenna Book.

Because VHF antennas are generally smaller than their HF counterparts, Kutzko said that portable operation is simple: "You can operate from your favorite hill-top, camp site or any location with high terrain and make many QSOs. All you need to know is the Maidenhead grid square of your operating location, which is the contest exchange."

For SSB QSOs on 6 meters, tune between 50.100-50.200 MHz. Keep in mind that 50.100-50.125 is reserved for inter-continental QSOs, so don't transmit there unless you are trying to work DX. 50.125 is the W/VE calling frequency, so listen there for band openings. If the band starts to open up, move off the calling frequency and start making contacts. For the CW operators, you will find CW between 50.080-50.100 MHz. Activity on 2 meters will center around the calling frequency of 144.200. Again, monitor the calling frequency for band openings, but move off when activity starts to pick up. Most 2 meter SSB/CW activity will be found be-

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### Internet Home Pages

Fort Wayne Radio Club:	<a href="http://www.FWRC.info/">http://www.FWRC.info/</a>
	<a href="http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FWRC/">http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FWRC/</a>
ACARTS:	<a href="http://www.acarts.com">http://www.acarts.com</a>
Fort Wayne DX Association:	<a href="http://www.qsl.net/fwdxa/">http://www.qsl.net/fwdxa/</a>
ARES:	<a href="http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Allen_Co_IN_ARES/">http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Allen_Co_IN_ARES/</a>
IN_PACKET Yahoo Group:	<a href="http://groups.yahoo.com/group/IN_PACKET/">http://groups.yahoo.com/group/IN_PACKET/</a>

Allen County HamNews is a monthly joint publication of the Fort Wayne Radio Club (P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN 46885), the Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society (P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN 46851), and the Fort Wayne DX Association.

Please send any articles, classified ads, or other information to the editor, Ken Helms, AB9ZD, at ab9zd at arrl.net. Please put "For Newsletter" in the subject line. Most text and graphics formats are acceptable. Microsoft Word and JPEG are preferred if separate files are used. For those without computer access, please mail your submission to either of the clubs post office boxes.

The deadline for the each issue is the first day of the month.

# Hamsplatter

Fort Wayne Radio Club P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN

## ON-AIR PLANNING FOR VHF QSO PARTY, FIELD DAY

by Jay Farlow, W9LW, FWRC Webmaster

Club President Steve Nardin, W9SAN announced that the club would begin on-the-air planning meetings for the upcoming ARRL VHF QSO Party and Field Day, on Wednesday, May 18. The meetings will be held at 8 p.m. EDT each Wednesday until the events. Meetings are conducted on the 146.76 MHz repeater until the Wednesday before Field Day.



*As of this writing, Steve was hospitalized with a lung problem. He should be home by the time you receive this. We all wish him a speedy recovery.*

The June ARRL VHF QSO Party encour-

ages amateur radio operators to work as many amateur stations in as many different 2 degrees x 1 degree grid squares as possible using authorized frequencies above 50 MHz. It runs from 2 p.m. EDT Saturday, June 11 until 10:59 p.m. EDT Sunday, June 12. Nardin said the VHF QSO Party operation will occur at a parking garage on the IPFW campus.



Field Day encourages operators to work as many stations as possible on any and all amateur bands (excluding the 60, 30, 17, and 12-meter bands) and to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions. It runs from 2 p.m. EDT Saturday, June 25 until 4:59 p.m. Sunday, June 26. Nardin said the Field Day operation will occur near Dolnick Learning Center on the northeast campus of IPFW (the former grounds of a state developmental center) on Baker Drive - East.

For more information:

<http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf-qso-party>

<http://www.arrl.org/field-day>



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#### W9TE Trustee

Carole Burke, WB9RUS

#### Webmaster

Jay Farlow, W9LW

### June 17: The TBD.

Unless otherwise scheduled, all meetings are held at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church, 4700 Vance Avenue, Fort Wayne, IN.



## A FEW PHOTOS FROM THE MAY BANQUET



## CLUB APPLIES FOR D-STAR OFFER

by Jay Farlow, W9LW, FWRC Webmaster

FWRC president Steve Nardin reports that he submitted a letter to ICOM expressing interest in the company's D-STAR Infrastructure Promotion through which it is offering a full refund on ICOM D-STAR repeater equipment to clubs that meet certain requirements. The company replied that it would evaluate all submissions once the promotion ends (scheduled for May 9) and the final decisions will be made a day or two later.

During a special on-air meeting Wednesday, May 4, the FWRC Board of Directors learned that Fort Wayne does not strictly qualify for the promotion, because it is within 100 miles of an existing D-STAR system. The board decided, however, to contact Icom to determine whether the company would be interested in extending the offer to Fort Wayne.

FWRC President Steve Nardin, W9SAN, has provided a number of downloadable files that provide more information about D-STAR. You can download the files from the FWRC web page at:

<http://www.fwrc.info/index.php/files/viewcategory/4.html>

# State of the Arts

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN

## ACARTS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi All,

It has been a while since you have heard from me. I have been going through treatments and now in therapy to get my strength back. But, a few events both nationally and locally have compelled me to write. It involves events that has happened and one that will be coming up and they are connected. The first involves the severe weather that we had on May 25th. It involves me in a round about way. First I would like to recognize Jay Farlow, W9LW, and Bernie Holm, K9JDF, for a job well done directing the Skywarn net. I know they put in a lot of long hours, as I listened from my location. They collected information in a timely manner, and were patient with calls that wanted to impart more information than was asked for or necessary. The other group I would like to recognize is the staff at Heritage Park, where I am currently a resident undergoing rehabilitation. I got to see how they handle weather watches and warnings. On that morning, around 9:00 AM, The National Weather Service, announced a severe weather watch. The staff on the PA announced a code for the staff to implement. They went around and closed all the blinds in all the rooms. The reason for this is if the wind kicked up, to protect from flying glass. Later that evening, I am not sure of the time, a tornado warning was issued for Eastern Allen County. The staff evacuated the rooms, and took the patients to the lounge areas, they also closed the fire doors. I happened to have my HT with me and it drew some attention. There is a computer in



the lounge so I brought up the National Weather Service so the residents could see the radar. I was very impressed with the way the staff handled the situation and themselves.

The second event coming up is Field Day. Remember the severe weather that we have been going through the past week. Look at all the destruction that has taken place. Field Day gets us ready for such events. We as a club do not have a organized event. You are welcomed to go to the FWRC site. Field Day gives you practice in setting up towers, power sources, antennas, and tents. You will probably be one of few sources of communication for a while. You will also learn the proper way to pass traffic. And it is a lot of fun. If you have never been to a field day, or you are a new ham, you need to go.

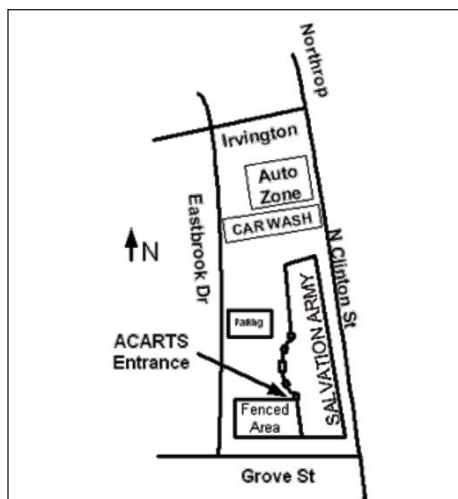
A final note. In July we take a break. There will be no board or general meetings. Keep in mind that the August program is our Family Picnic, and is on a weekend. More details later. That is all I have for now.

73,

Vic, KA9LTV

**June 21:** The June ACARTS Meeting will be a presentation on QRP by Mike Barrell, WB9DLC.

Unless otherwise scheduled, all meetings are held at the Salvation Army Center, 2901 N. Clinton Street, Fort Wayne, IN.



## ACARTS Officers

### President

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Open

### Station Manager

Open

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## ACARTS BOARD MEETING MINUTES AND MAY GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

The May ACARTS Board meeting was held in conjunction with the General Meeting due to schedule conflicts.

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Dave Lindquist, W9LKH.

Dave announced that he would contact Mike, WB9DLC, about giving a presentation on QRP for the June program.

He added that the club license, W9INX, had been renewed.

He stated that he, Jim, KB9IH, and Howard, N9ADS, had visited the repeater shack at WANE-TV to see what could be done to level the building. It was determined that the whole building had sunk

except for the northeast corner, which was being held up by the AC power service feed conduit. It was decided that we would try and raise the rest of the building to the level of the northeast corner. Howard, N9ADS, volunteered the use of his railroad track jack to raise the shack so that blocks could be placed under it. He also suggested covering the building with vinyl siding after replacing the rotting wood siding sections and missing insulation. Jim, KB9IH, said that he would contact WANE-TV about the project. Leveling the building is on hold until the ground around the shack dries out enough to support the jack.

Steve, W9SAN, presented Fort Wayne Radio Club's plans of looking into a D-STAR repeater for the Fort Wayne area. ICOM would reimburse the club the initial \$3000 cost of the equipment after one

year as long as certain criteria are met. Jim, KB9IH, made a motion to make the project a joint effort between FWRC and ACARTS, with ACARTS providing half of the initial investment if FWRC votes to undertake the project. The motion was seconded by Dave, W9LKH, and passed by a voice vote.

Howard, N9ADS, asked if anyone had any objections to Jay, W9LW, becoming the new IMO Skywarn Quad 2 director. IMO Skywarn has no formal procedure for replacing a director, and Jay has expressed an interest in the job.

After refreshments, Jim, KB9IH, gave a presentation on Anderson PowerPoles and the crimping tool. He also showed his new "Go Box" which makes extensive use of PowerPoles.

Submitted by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH.

## ARRL IN ACTION: WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO LATELY?

Compiled by S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA  
ARRL News Editor  
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This feature -- including convenient Web links to useful information -- is a concise monthly update of some of the things ARRL is doing on behalf of its members. This installment covers the month of May.

Senators Joe Lieberman (ID-CT) and John McCain (R-AZ) introduced S 1040 -- The Broadband for First Responders Act of 2011 -- in the Senate. S 1040, unlike the similar HR 607, does not call for auctioning any portions of Amateur Radio spectrum.

Radio amateurs in Southwestern Missouri supported served agencies after the single deadliest tornado since 1953 destroyed much of the city of Joplin, Missouri.

Hams from Alabama and Georgia assisted served agencies after massive storms swept through the region. The ARRL, through its Ham Aid Program, provided much-needed equipment to amateurs in the affected areas.

ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, testified before the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology of the US House of Representatives at a

hearing on "Creating an Interoperable Public Safety Network."

FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate called Amateur Radio "the last line of defense" during an FCC forum on earthquake communications preparedness.

The ARRL EXPO at the 2011 Dayton Hamvention® provided a wide range of activities, including DX-related activities and a rebuilt OSCAR 1 satellite.

NASA -- in conjunction with the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program -- invited educators to apply to have an ARISS QSO with the space station.

ARRL Chief Technology Officer Brennan Price, N4QX, was part of the US delegation at the CITEL meetings in the Dominican Republic. Three more countries -- Ecuador, El Salvador and Costa Rica -- formally supported the Inter-American Proposal on WRC-12 Agenda Item 1.23 that proposes to allocate 461-469 and 471-478 kHz on a secondary Basis to the Amateur Radio Service. Price also attended a WRC-12 briefing for CITEL member states in the Dominican Republic and Working Party 1ABC in Geneva, Switzerland.

The ARRL began a new partnership with Hays Affinity Group to provide ARRL members with equipment protection and

club liability insurance plans.

At the ANSI asc C63 Committee meeting in Texas, all three of ARRL Lab Manager Ed Hare's, W1RFI, proposals to measure distance extrapolation below 30 MHz were unanimously accepted by the Working Group. This group is tasked with developing a standard to measure the emissions from unlicensed intentional emitters.

ARRL RFI Engineer Mike Gruber, W1MG, traveled to Pittsburgh to teach FCC staff how to detect and locate power line interference using both a 400 MHz Yagi/AM receiver and an ultrasonic dish.

ARRL Headquarters hosted delegations from India, Vietnam and China.

The FCC is proposing to raise the vanity call sign fee by 90 cents.

Kenwood USA donated a TS-590S HF/6 meter transceiver to W1AW, the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station.

The ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference is calling for technical papers.

Maine and Puerto Rico celebrate radio amateurs by proclaiming Amateur Radio Day.

*Continued on page 8*

## THE K AND A INDICES

Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA

The K and A indices are readily available indices that can give us an indication of how geomagnetic field activity may be affecting propagation. It all starts with the K index, which ranges from 0 to 9 and is a 3-hour summary measurement of the variation of the Earth's magnetic field relative to quiet day conditions. The K index is determined from the data taken by a magnetometer, which measures the variation of the magnetic field in nanoTeslas (nT). Figure 1 is the plot of nT versus the K index for the Boulder magnetometer.

Note that the nT scale is plotted on a logarithmic scale and that the curve is almost a straight line. Since it isn't exactly a straight line, the K index is said to be

quasi-logarithmic. Each station has its own scale of nT versus K. This is done to try to make the K index from each station represent the same level of disturbance. For a given disturbance, the variation of the Earth's magnetic field will be greatest at the high latitudes. Thus at the high latitude College (Alaska) station, a K index of 9 is a variation greater than 2500nT. At the low latitude Kuyper (Sumatra) station, a K index of 9 is a variation greater than 300nT. Compare these nT values with the mid latitude Boulder nT value at K=9, which is about 900 from Figure 1.

Once we have the eight K indices for the entire day, we can come up with an average for the entire day. But the K index is logarithmic, so mathematically we shouldn't simply add all eight K values

and divide by eight to get an average. To do averaging, we need indices that are linear. This is where the A index comes in, which ranges from 0 to 400. Table 1 shows the conversion between the K index and the A index (the little 'a' indicates it is an equivalent 3-hour value of the K index – a big 'A' indicates it is a daily average value).

If we plot nT versus the a index for Boulder we get Figure 2. Note that the nT scale is now plotted on a linear scale and that the resulting curve is for all intents and purposes a straight

line. Thus the 3-hour a index (and the subsequent A index) is said to be linear.

Now we can simply add the eight 3-hour a indices, divide by eight, and come up with a daily average – which is the A index. We can also do this for many worldwide stations and come up with the daily average planetary A index, Ap. In a like manner, we can use many worldwide stations to come up with the 3-hour planetary K index, Kp.

Ok, now we know where K and A come from. But how do they tie to HF and VHF propagation conditions? In general, as the K and A indices become elevated:

1. The high latitude E region ionization can increase significantly (VHFers like this)
2. Increased D region absorption can occur in and near the auroral oval (not good)
3. Usually the F region ionization at mid and high latitudes decreases (not good)
4. Sometimes, depending on how the geomagnetic storm evolves, the F region ionization at low and mid latitudes initially increases (this can be good)

Two closing comments are in order. First, the K index and thus the a and A indices are measurements of currents flowing at E region altitudes. Thus they don't directly tell us what's going on at F region altitudes. Second, since the A index is the average of eight K indices, a spike in one or two of the eight 3-hour K indices may not show up very much in the daily average A index, even though the spike af-

fected the ionosphere. So the A index could be encouraging, but it may not indicate the effects of a short-term event.

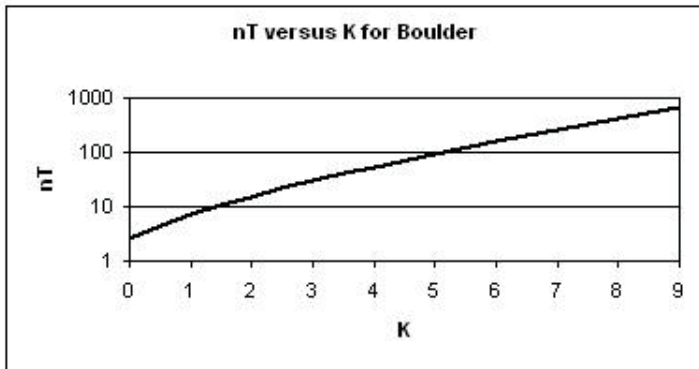


Figure 1

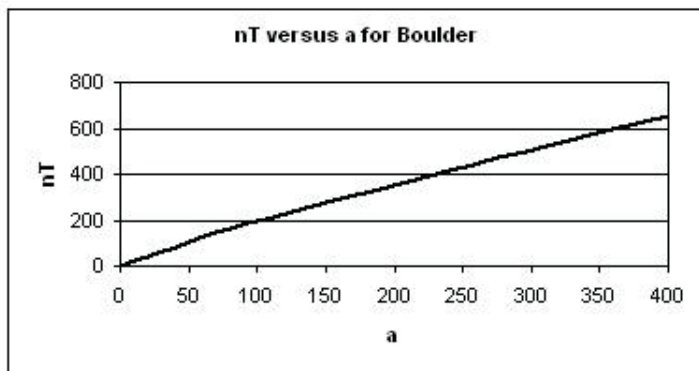


Figure 2

K	a	nT
0	0	0-5
1	3	5-10
2	7	10-20
3	15	20-40
4	27	40-70
5	48	70-120
6	80	120-200
7	140	200-330
8	240	330-500
9	400	> 500

Table 1

# THE FOXHUNT CHRONICLES FOR THE APRIL HUNT

The fourth Foxhunt of the 2011 season was held on Sunday afternoon, the

1st of May. The temperature was in the low seventies and the sky was a little cloudy with a slight breeze, all in all, it was a great day for a hunt. This was the first hunt aligned with the new schedule adopted by the foxhunter aficionados that shifted all foxhunts to Sundays starting at 1:30 pm instead of conducting them on Monday evenings in the spring and summer.

The May hunters consisted of six groups including the team of Steve Nardin, W9SAN and his grandson Alex, the team of Mark Berke, WA7NXI and Steve Irving, KC9AUQ, the team of Brian and Debbie Jenks, W9BGJ & KB9ZQG, the team of Jim and Annie Pliett, K9OMA and KB9YYI plus Carole & Al Burke, WB9's RUS and SSE, the team of Jim and Kim Machamer, KB9's DOS and DOT, and solitary hunter Woody Woodbury, KC9CGN.

The services of the fox was provided by Charles Ward, KC9MUT who was situated in Heatherwood Park, behind the New Haven Fire Department complex at the corner of Hartzell Road and the Lincoln Highway (930). Charles, complete with a freshly broken foot, used a high power mobile unit along with a mast mounted yagi in the bed of his truck to first antagonize the rabid foxhunter crews situated at the Off-Track Betting Parlor parking lot starting point at Washington Center and Lima Roads. He later switched to a 500

mw cross-band HT when the hunters localized him. The HT was well hidden in the woods amidst a lot of downed trees and we all wondered how Charles managed to get into that termite heaven with his broken foot....but he did.

Our team heard the first fox transmission and skedaddled south on Lima Rd. and then east on Coliseum until we hit Lake Ave. , based upon the DF readings from Jim's roof mounted yagi. When Lake converted to the North River Rd. our DF reading suggested that the fox was across the river in New Haven, and we all said "Yuck!", (that's not exactly what we really said, but hey, this is a family oriented publication). The (ahem) 'Yuck' comment was due to the fact that in the past, ALL excursions into the New Haven area searching for a fox have resulted in more than a little frustration. And not just on our team's part. Seems like everyone gets screwed up hunting for foxes in New Haven.

But much to our amazement, a few more DF readings led us directly to Charles's truck (Carole spotted it first), and so we were the first team to localize. We were followed by Jim and Kim Machamer and then, I believe, by Mark Berke and Steve Irving, Woody Woodbury, Brian and Debbie Jenks, and finally, Steve Nardin and his grandson Alex.

As I said, it surprised us how far back in the woods Charles was able to secrete the actual fox HT given he has a broken foot. Carole was being very careful stomping

around in the woods given she damaged her knee during the April foxhunt when she got it hung up in some barbed-wire and brambles. She told Jim Pliett that "it was his turn to get hurt on this one".

And in fact Jim and the Pliett/Burke team were first to find the HT followed by the Machamer's, and then Berke/Irving, the Jenks, Woody and finally Steve and grandson Alex in that order.

Scoring-wise, based upon the mileage & time to find criterion, foxhunt points for the May hunt were as follows:

KC9MUT (The Fox)	698 points
WB9RUS / WB9SSE	702.5 points
K9OMA / KB9YYI	702.5 points
W9SAN / Alex	562.5 points
WB9BGJ / KB9GJQ	637.5 points
KA7NXI / KC9AUQ	670 points
KC9CGN	645 points
KB9DOS / KB9DOT	705 points

Based upon the points realized during this hunt, Jim & Kim Machamer will serve as the fox for the June hunt which is scheduled to start at 1:30 pm on Sunday, June 5th.

Following the hunt, everyone proceeded to the Lincoln Highway Dairy Queen to partake in a little post-hunt celebration and re-fueling. It was, as usual, GOOD.

Respectfully submitted,

Al Burke, WB9SSE

## FOX HUNT YEAR TO DATE POINTS

K9OMA	KA9YYI	WB9SSE	WB9RUS	KC9TIK	AB9YB	KB9OS	KC9MUT	KC9EZP	
2140.5	2140.5	2065.5	2065.5	525	525	525	2743	2045	
W9SAN	W9LAN	ALEX	KB9DOS	KB9DOT	KC9CGN	WA7NXI	KA9AUQ	WB9BGJ	KB9ZQG
2164	687.5	1476.5	2803	2803	1570	2318	1763	1225	1225



A couple of photos  
from the 2011  
**DAYTON  
HAMVENTION**





# Classified Ads

Items for Sale

Want to Buy

Books for Sale. ARRL License Manuals. Both are used but in good condition.

Level 1 Technician (with CD), good through June 30, 2014. List \$29.95. Will sell for \$20.

Level 3 Amateur Extra (no CD), good through June 30, 2012. List \$24.95. Will sell for \$15.

or \$30 for both.

Ken Helms, KC9TPF  
email: helms.ken (at) frontier.com  
260-749-2089

## INDIANAPOLIS HAMFEST

07/09/2011

Camp Sertoma

2316 South German Church Road

Indianapolis, IN 46201

<http://www.indyhamfest.com>

Talk-In: 146.16/146.76 (no tone)

Public Contact: Bill Akin, K9YDO

PO Box 1672 Noblesville, IN 46060

Phone: 317-261-6658

Email: k9ydo at comcast.net

## INDIANA STATE CONVENTION (FORT WAYNE HAMFEST AND COMPUTER EXPO)

11/19/2011 and 11/20/2011

Allen County War Memorial Coliseum

4000 Parnell Avenue

Fort Wayne, IN 46801

<http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com>

Talk-In: 146.880+

Public Contact: James Boyer, KB9IH

PO Box 10342 Fort Wayne, IN 46851

Phone: 260-579-2196

Email: chairman at fortwaynehamfest.com

*If you have something you would like to have listed in the classified section then please send an email to the newsletter editor at helms.ken (at) frontier.com.*

### June VHF QSO Party

*Continued from page 1*

tween 144.170-144.230 MHz, and 70 cm activity will center around 432.100 MHz.

"The weekend promises to be a tremendous amount of fun on the VHF and UHF bands. Don't miss out! All amateurs -- from Technicians to Extras, experienced VHF operators to the first-time VHF dabblers -- are welcome," Kutzko said. The ARRL June VHF QSO Party runs from 1800 UTC Saturday, June 11 through 0300 UTC Monday, June 13 (Saturday afternoon to Sunday evening for most of the US and Canada). Complete rules and entry forms may be found here. All logs must be e-mailed or postmarked no later than 0300 UTC Wednesday, July 13. Questions can be sent via e-mail to the Contest Branch.

### ARRL News

*Continued from page 5*

The FCC upheld a \$4000 forfeiture against a Pennsylvania ham who was operating on unauthorized frequencies.

FCC Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker announced she would be leaving her post on June 3, just 27 days before her term expires.

Forecasters with the National Hurricane Center are calling for an "above-average" 2011 Atlantic hurricane season.

Entries are still being accepted for the 2011 ARRL Photo Contest.

The winner of the QST Cover Plaque Award for May 2011 is Jim Talens, N3JT, for his article "The W7JI Low or Lower Power 40 Meter Transmitter."

The July issue of QST was released to the printer. Two new publications -- Ham-speak Dictionary by QST Technical Editor Joel Hallas, W1ZR, and Small Antennas for

Small Spaces by QST Editor Steve Ford, WB8IMY -- as well as TravelPlus Mobile GPS for the Garmin Nuvi GPS, were made available for sale.

Official Observer Desk: ARRL Field and Regulatory Correspondent Chuck Skolaut, K0BOG, handled complaints regarding interference to the International Handicapped net on 14.287 MHz; unidentified digital signals and an Over the Horizon radar on 17 meters, and repeater interference in Eastern Massachusetts, Northern New Jersey and Arizona.

Section News: ARRL members in Nevada re-elected Section Manager Joe Giraud, N7JEH, of Spring Creek, to a new two-year term of office. Phil Steffora, K6TT, of Los Altos, California, was appointed as Santa Clara Valley Section Manager.

DXCC News: The ARRL DXCC Desk approved the 2011 4A4A DXpedition to Revillagigedo and the 2011 VU4PB DXpedition to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

## Say Again?

"There is practically no chance communications space satellites will be used to provide better telephone, telegraph, television, or radio service inside the United States."

*T. Craven, FCC Commissioner, in 1961*

*(The first commercial communications satellite went into service in 1965.)*





## YES YOU CAN! YOU CAN WRITE AN ARTICLE FOR THE ACHN

We're looking for a few good volunteers to contribute articles or photographs for the ACHN. Some suggestions that I've received include:

- An On The Bands column by someone who is active
- A monthly construction project - from a small accessory to a multi-part bigger project
- A Show-And-Tell column that could rotate among everyone - something that you're proud of or interested in
- Meet the Member sort of articles where a member of one of the clubs tells what ham radio means to them.

The newsletter editor will be glad to give you a hand. Contact Ken at AB9ZD at ARRL.com. Any common text format or photo format should be fine. You don't have to be a John Steinbeck or Mark Twain to contribute.

The Allen County HamNews is prepared using Adobe's InDesign software along with PhotoShop and Acrobat on an i7 PC running Windows 7.

Photos of this month's of club events were provided by Al Burke WB9SSE and the newsletter editor.

## THERE'S STILL TIME TO ENTER THE 2011 ARRL PHOTO CONTEST!

Have you ever wanted to see a photo of yours in QST, the annual ARRL Amateur Radio Calendar or another ARRL publication? Well, here's your chance! If you're among the winners, not only will your photographic skill be propagated far and wide, but we're offering \$100 as the First Prize. The winning photo and three runners-up will be published in QST. All submitted photos will also be considered for the 2012 ARRL Calendar.

**Deadline:** Photos must be received at ARRL HQ by June 30, 2011.

**Subject:** Must be directly related to Amateur Radio, and be in good taste. Extra points will be awarded for photos showing folks having fun with Amateur Radio. Photos will be judged on overall quality and composition.

**Requirements:** Digital images or color prints accepted. A digital image printed on photo paper, however, doesn't work as well as a high-resolution file attachment. Digital images should be high resolution. A digital image up to 8 MB in size can be e-mailed to [upfront@arrl.org](mailto:upfront@arrl.org), subject line "2011 Photo Contest." An image may also be burned to a CD and mailed to ARRL Photo Contest, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. All entries must include caption information describing where the photo was taken, along with a description of the subject of the photo, as well as the names and call signs of any persons shown. If you entered last year's contest, please do not resend the same photo for this year's contest. One entry per person.

**Miscellaneous:** The decisions of the judges -- composed of QST editorial and production staff -- are final.

## Foxhunt Chronicles

The following is the planned Foxhunting schedule for 2011:

July	07/10/11	1:30 pm	Sunday
August	08/07/11	1:30 pm	Sunday
September	09/11/11	1:30 pm	Sunday
October	10/02/11	1:30 pm	Sunday
November	11/06/11	1:30 pm	Sunday

## Say Again?

"Fooling around with alternating current is just a waste of time.  
Nobody will use it, ever."

*Thomas Edison, American inventor, 1889*

*(Edison often ridiculed the arguments of competitor George Westinghouse for AC power.)*

# CONTEST CALENDAR

Here are a few of the contests that will be held in the next few weeks. Please refer to the contest Web sites for full rules, scoring information, operating periods or time limits, and log submission information.

Some of the places on-line with information on contest include:

ARRL Contest Corral Web page: <http://www.arrl.org/contests>

WA7BNM Contest Calendar: <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/>

ARRL's National Contest Journal calendar: <http://www.ncjweb.com/contestcal.php>

Contesting On-Line: <http://www.contesting.com/>

HF	Contest Title	Ph	CW	Dig	Exchange & Frequencies (MHz)	Logs Due
VHF+	Dates / Times				Sponsor's Web Site	
	<b>ARRL June VHF QSO Party</b>	X	X	X	Grid square	Jul 14
50+	<b>June 11, 1800Z - June 13, 0300Z</b>				<a href="http://www.arrl.org/contests">www.arrl.org/contests</a>	
3.5-28	<b>ARRL Kid's Day</b>	X			Name, age, location, favorite color	
	<b>Jun 18, 1800Z - June 18, 2400Z</b>				<a href="http://www.arrl.org/kids-day">www.arrl.org/kids-day</a>	
1.8-28	<b>ARRL Field Day</b>	X	X	X	Category, ARRL/RAC section or DX	Jul 27
50+	<b>June 25, 1800Z - June 26, 2100Z</b>				<a href="http://www.arrl.org/contests">www.arrl.org/contests</a>	
3.5-28	West Virginia QSO Party	X	X	X	RS(T), WV county or S/P/C	Jul 20
	Jun 18, 1600Z - Jun 19, 0200Z - See Web Page				<a href="http://www.qsl.net/wvsarc">www.qsl.net/wvsarc</a>	
3.5-14	NAQCC Monthly QRP Sprint		X		RST, S/P/C, and NAQCC mbr nr or power	4 days
	Jun 15, 0030Z - Jun 15, 0230Z				<a href="http://www.naqcc.info">www.naqcc.info</a>	
	SMIRK QSO Party	X	X		Grid square and member number	Aug 1
50	Jun 18, 0000Z - Jun 19, 2359Z				<a href="http://www.smirk.org">www.smirk.org</a>	
28	Feld-Hell 10 Meter Sprint			X	RST, QTH, Feld-Hell number	
	Jun 18, 2000Z - Jun 18, 2200Z				<a href="http://www.feldhellclub.org">www.feldhellclub.org</a>	
3.5-14	NAQCC Milliwatt Sprint		X		RST, S/P/C, and NAQCC mbr nr or power	4 days
	Jun 22, 0030Z - Jun 22, 0230Z				<a href="http://www.naqcc.info">www.naqcc.info</a>	
1.8-28	World Wide QRP Contest	X	X		RS(T)	Jul 11
50-432	Jun 11, 0000Z - Jun 19, 2400Z				<a href="http://en.jaqrp.org">en.jaqrp.org</a>	

## SATERN SEEKS AMATEUR RADIO VOLUNTEERS FOR JOPLIN OPERATIONS

In accord with our Memorandum of Understanding with The Salvation Army, the ARRL is looking for volunteers to aid them in their work in Joplin, Missouri.

As a SATERN (Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network) operator, if deployed, you will be asked to go out on Salvation Army vehicles into the areas impacted by the Joplin tornado to supply logistical support. The Salvation Army vehicles supply basic human needs (particularly food and drink), and you will play a big part in the operation. You will relay information such as inventory, requests for food and drink and maintenance

problems that develop. At certain periods of the day, radio traffic has been almost constant. The Salvation Army Disaster Response Operations are now running from 7 AM to as late as 9 PM each day.

**DO NOT SELF-DEPLOY!** Wait to be contacted for possible deployment and assignment.

The qualifications for being assigned are: Technician or higher Amateur Radio license; good health; the ability to take on a 3-5 day deployment in the field; and have a handheld transceiver and a mobile (VHF/UHF) radio -- APRS capability is a big plus. Experience with disaster responses. ARES® leadership experience is a plus. NIMS/ICS training with a minimum of IS-100 and IS-200 completed.

The process to volunteer is: Send an

e-mail to [emergency@arrl.org](mailto:emergency@arrl.org). In this e-mail, please include your name, call sign, contact information (phone and e-mail), location and specific information on how you meet each of the criteria above. If assigned, you will be contacted by SATERN directly and given further instructions.

The Salvation Army will try to supply you with some type of lodging, if available. If deployed, you should consider bringing a sleeping bag.

No reimbursement for travel or any other expenses has been authorized but expenses may be tax deductible.

Complete info is available at:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/satern-seeks-amateur-radio-volunteers-for-joplin-operations>

## Membership Application for ☐ ACARTS - and/or - ☐ FWRC

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call sign: \_\_\_\_\_ License class: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Unlisted? ☐ Yes  
 Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL Member? ☐ Yes

(ARRL membership helps your club maintain affiliation.)

May we list your name, call & email address in our membership roster and on our club web site? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Both clubs now offer this newsletter as a downloadable (Adobe Acrobat) PDF file, in lieu of a paper copy sent through the mail. For FWRC a mailed paper newsletter is a \$20.00/yr. premium.

How would you like your newsletter delivered? ☐ by snail mail ☐ download from web site.

### A.C.A.R.T.S. Dues

Regular membership ☐ \$12.00 / year  
 Additional family members<sup>1</sup> ☐ \$6.00 / year  
 Student membership<sup>2</sup> ☐ \$6.00 / year  
 Associate membership<sup>3</sup> ☐ \$6.00 / year  
 (New Regular memberships are \$1/month)

### Fort Wayne Radio Club Dues

Regular membership ☐ \$20.00 / year  
 Family membership<sup>1</sup> ☐ \$30.00 / year  
 Student membership<sup>2</sup> ☐ \$5.00 / year  
 Associate membership<sup>3</sup> ☐ \$20.00 / year  
 Mailed newsletter premium ☐ \$20.00 / year  
 (Memberships for Jul - Dec are 1/2 the stated amounts.)

1. Please list all names and calls on an attached sheet.

2. K-12 or full time student

3. Unlicensed member

Please attach a check (number \_\_\_\_\_) for the appropriate amount and bring to a club meeting or mail to:

ACARTS	Fort Wayne Radio Club.
PO Box 10342	PO Box 15127
Fort Wayne, IN 46851	Fort Wayne, IN 46885

For dual membership, fill out both sides and send two checks to either club. Payment by check is strongly encouraged!

### ACARTS Voice Repeaters

146.880 (-) General use / Skywarn priority

147.255 (+) General use

443.800 (+) General use

(For autopatch 88 has only speed dial emergency #'s.)

### ACARTS Digital Repeaters (digirepeaters)

144.390 (s) APRS - wide

145.530 (s) W9INX-1 Digipeater and Node

### Fort Wayne Radio Club Repeaters

Voice:

146.76 (-) General use

146.94 (-) General use with autopatch

146.91 (-) EchoLink connection repeater

Node number 519521

444.875 (+) General use

ATV: 439.25 In, 910.250 Out, 144.340 Audio & control

### Area Traffic Nets

(please submit any changes or corrections to the editor)

**IMO:** meets nightly at 6:30 p.m. on 146.88-

**Tri State Two Meter Net:** meets daily at 7:00 p.m. on 147.015+

**21 Repeater Group:** Wed. at 7:30 p.m. on 147.150

**Help and Swap Net:** Mon. at 9:00 p.m. 146.94(-)

**Daily Indiana Traffic Net:** 3.910 @ 8:30 a.m. & 4:30 p.m. local.

**Daily (QIN) Indiana Section CW net:** 3.535 @ 9:30 a.m. &

7:00 p.m. local times.

### Miscellaneous Nets

**Allen Co. ARES Training Net:** Tue. at 9:00 p.m. on 146.94-

**Emergency Preparedness Net:** Thurs. at 9:00 p.m. on 146.88-

**Huntington ARES:** Sat. at 8:00 p.m. on 146.685-

**Whitley Co. ARES:** Wed. at 8:00 p.m. on 145.270

(Note 131.8 PL disabled for all nets)

**Whitley Co. Sunday:** Sun. at 8:00 p.m. on 444.550+, 131.8 PL

**"No-Name" Net:** 8:30 pm Sunday and Wednesday nights. 1.965 MHz or cross band on the 146.91 repeater.

**Little Red Barn Net:** Weekdays @ 8:30 a.m. on 3820 kHz. Thursdays at 3826 kHz.

**Northeast Indiana Packet Net:** Sunday at 9:00 p.m. on 145.530 @ 1200 baud. We use unconnected converse mode to communicate for a roundtable net setting. Use your "UNPROTO" command or equivalent to set Digi path(s) through the strongest station(s) needed between you and your destination. Only use those that are necessary! Have all your "Monitor" settings on so you can see everyone.

**FWRC YL Net:** Wed. 7:00 p.m. on 146.76-

**FWRC 6 Meter Net:** Tue. 8:00 p.m. on 50.580 USB

**6 Meter AM Net:** Thurs. 8:00 p.m. on 50.580 AM

**FW Area Student Net:** Wed. 9:00 p.m. on 146.91-



To:

## Activities Calendar



Date	Time	Event	Place
06/07/2011	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	GSUMC
06/11/2011	2:00 PM	ARRL VHF QSO Party	IPFW Parking Garage, Top Floor
		through 10:59 PM 06/12/2011	
06/14/2011	7:00 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	Salvation Army Fort Wayne
06/17/2011	7:00 PM	FWRC General Meeting	GSUMC
06/21/2011	7:00 PM	ACARTS General Meeting	Salvation Army Fort Wayne
06/25/2011	2:00 PM	ARRL Field Day	IPFW near Dolnick Learning Center
		through 4:59 PM 06/26/2011	
07/10/2011	1:30 PM	Foxhunt	Fort Wayne Off Track Betting Complex
07/05/2011	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	GSUMC
07/15/2011	7:00 PM	FWRC General Meeting	GSUMC
		No ACARTS Meetings in July	
		ACARTS Picnic in August, Date TBD	